

<p align="center"><b>EMERGENCY SERVICES DIVISION</b></p> <p align="center"><b>BROOKHAVEN NATIONAL LABORATORY</b></p>		<p>Procedure No: FR-EMS-3.0.9</p> <p>Revision No: 2</p> <p>Page 1 of 3</p>
<p><b>Title: DISPOSAL OF INFECTIOUS WASTE</b></p>		
<p>1.0 <b><u>PURPOSE:</u></b></p> <p>1.1 The purpose of this standard is to identify the method for disposal of infectious medical waste generated by the Fire/Rescue Group.</p> <p>2.0 <b><u>RESPONSIBILITIES:</u></b></p> <p>2.1 <i>The Duty Fire Officers</i> are responsible to the Fire Chief to ensure that their staff is trained to the content of this procedure and for ensuring that it is carried out.</p> <p>2.2 <i>Fire Rescue Personnel</i> are responsible for ensuring that they implement this procedure.</p> <p>3.0 <b><u>DEFINITIONS:</u></b></p> <p>3.1 <b><i>Other Potentially Infectious Materials.</i></b> Body fluids and body parts that have been identified as having the potential to carry bloodborne pathogens due to their association with blood, such as the following:</p> <p>Blood (including plasma, serum, red cell platelets, or other blood components), semen, vaginal secretions, cerebrospinal fluid, synovial fluid, pleural fluid, pericardial fluid, peritoneal fluid, amniotic fluid, any bloody fluid that is visibly contaminated with blood, and all body fluids in situations where it is difficult or impossible to differentiate between body fluids.</p> <p>Any unfixed tissue or organ (other than intact skin) from a human (living or dead); and</p> <p>HIV-containing cell or tissue cultures, organ cultures, and HIV or HBV-containing culture medium or other solutions; and blood, organs or other tissues.</p> <p>3.2 <b><i>Regulated Waste.</i></b> Liquid or semi-liquid blood or other potentially infectious materials: contaminated items that would release blood or other potentially infectious materials in a liquid or semiliquid state if compressed; items that are caked with dried blood or other potentially infectious materials and are capable of releasing these materials during handling; contaminated sharps; and pathological and microbiological waste containing blood or other potentially infectious materials.</p>		
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<p align="center"><b>EMERGENCY SERVICES DIVISION PROCEDURE BROOKHAVEN NATIONAL LABORATORY</b></p>	<p>Procedure No. FR-EMS-3.0.9</p>
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3.3 **Universal Precautions.** Universal precautions is an approach to infection control where all human blood and certain human body fluids are treated as if known to be infected with HIV, HBV and other bloodborne *pathogens*.

3.4 **Sharps.** Any object that can penetrate the skin, including but not limited to needles, scalpels, broken glass, and broken capillary tubes.

4.0 **PREREQUISITES:**  
NA

5.0 **PRECAUTIONS:**

5.1 Personal protective equipment should be used as appropriate to minimize exposure to blood borne pathogens following the selection guide in FR-EMS - 3.0.8 - Biohazard Personal Protection Selection Protocol.

6.0 **PROCEDURE:**

6.1 In the course of executing their work, fire/rescue personnel may generate medical waste. The following are acceptable methods for disposing of this waste.

6.1.1 Sharps may be disposed of in sharps containers located in the ambulance or Fire/Rescue vehicle.

6.1.2 Sharps containers should be used only for the disposal of sharps material.

6.2 Other contaminated waste shall be disposed of in a red biohazard bag available on the ambulance and on the fire/rescue vehicle. Other bags may be used if they are appropriately labeled with biohazard labels.

6.3 Labels shall be fluorescent orange, or orange-red or predominantly so, with lettering or symbols in a contrasting color.

6.4 When sharps containers and other medical waste are ready for disposal they should be visually inspected to ensure that:

a) they are not contaminated on the outside, and

b) the integrity of the container is maintained and no sharps or other material has punctured the bag/container.

6.5 Waste material can be transported to the FSS Representatives at Medical. FSS Representatives should be notified in advance that waste will be delivered. The FSS Representative will help the Fire/Rescue Group complete the Medical Department's Medical Waste Control Form found in the Medical Department Procedure IC 6.2 Handling & Disposal of Regulated Medical Waste (Appendix A).

6.6 An alternative method of disposal of waste is to dispose of the waste at the Occupational Medicine Clinic at time of delivery of the patient, or at the attending hospital.

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6.7 Dispose @ hospital ?????

**7.0 IMPLEMENTATION AND TRAINING:**

None

**8.0 REFERENCES:**

8.1 Medical Department Procedure IC 6.2 Handling & Disposal of Regulated Medical Waste.

**9.0 ATTACHMENTS**

9.1 Medical Department Procedure IC 6.2 Handling & Disposal of Regulated Medical Waste  
(see end of document).